

Philosophy 6
Professional and Business Ethics
Spring 2009
MWF 1-1:50, Bldg 387 Rm 101
Sections: Wed. 2-2:50 PHELP 3505, Fri. 2-2:50, NH 1111

Instructor: Carmen Zinn
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Teaching Assistant: Quentin Gee
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Office Hours: Wed. 11-1
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Course Website:

<http://www.philosophy.ucsb.edu/websites/phil6/>

Here you'll find the lecture slides, as well as the syllabus, paper topics, and any other hand outs (as they are posted). I'll also post the current reading assignment, and the dates of the quizzes here.

Required Text:

Reader -- available at Alternative Copy Shop (6556 Pardall Rd.) in Isla Vista
The reader will also be on reserve in the library.

Course Requirements:

Quizzes: There will be 4 quizzes, worth 40% of your grade (so each one is roughly worth 10% of your grade). There will be a quiz given upon the completion of each of the following sections: (1) corporate responsibility, (2) lobbying, honesty, and Advertising, (3) Business and Employees and "Consumer" Safety, (4) Business and the Environment and (Non) Compliance with Ethical Standards.

Papers: You'll be writing one long paper for this course in two drafts/sections. The first draft should be 1200-1600 words (4-5 pages) and will be worth 15% of your grade. You will have the opportunity to rewrite this portion of your paper for the second paper, as well as add to it. The second paper should be 2400-3200 words (8-10 pages long), with roughly ½ of it being composed of a rewrite of your first paper. The second paper will be worth 35% of your grade.

Participation: You'll be expected to attend and speak up in sections and lectures, as well as to complete any assignments given to you by your TA. This will be worth 10% of your grade.

Late Policy/Academic Dishonesty:

Late papers will be marked down 1/3 of a grade for every day they are late (including weekends). Excuses need to be documented. We will pursue the harshest penalties for academic dishonesty of any kind. If you are ever in doubt about whether or not your actions might constitute academic dishonesty, please consult Quentin or myself, or the UCSB website:
<http://judicialaffairs.sa.ucsb.edu/pdf/academicintegflyer.pdf>

Tentative Course Schedule (Subject to Change)Section 1: Corporate Responsibility

Friedman "The Social Responsibility of Business Is to Increase Its Profits"

Freeman "A Stakeholder Theory of Responsibility"

Bowie "New Directions in Corporate Responsibility"

Trehan "The Mortgage Market: What Happened?"

Day "Villains in the Mortgage Mess..."

Carr "Understanding the Credit Crisis"

Quiz 1**Paper 1 assigned week 3**Section 2: Lobbying Honesty, and Advertising

Ostas "The Law and Ethics of K Street..."

Weissman "By the Numbers..."

Nadar "The Highway Lobby"

Hargreaves "Oil's Washington's Juggernaut"

Birnbaum "The Road to Riches is Called K-Street"

Carr "Is Business Bluffing Ethical?"

Carson "Second Thoughts about Bluffing in Business"

A.P. "Whole Food's CEO's Anonymous Online Life"

Arrington "Advertising and Behavioral Control"

Moore "Children and the Changing World of Advertising"

Quiz 2**Paper 1 due week 4**Section 3&4: Business and Employees and Consumer Safety

Wertheimer "Unconscionability and Contracts"

"Unfair Transactions"

Maitland "The Great Non-Debate Over International Sweatshops"

Meyers "Wrongful Beneficence: Exploitation and Third World Sweatshops"

Shaw "Poverty in America"

Greenhouse "Worked Over and Overworked"

Dube, et al. "Living Wage Policies and Wal-Mart..."

Shrader-frechette "Risky Business..."

Piker “Strict Liability and the Unfairness Objection”
McCall “Fairness, Strict Liability, and Public Policy”
Feder “Medical Device Ruling Redraws Lines on Lawsuits”
Meier “Lawmakers Seek to Return to Right to Sue Device Makers”
RUETERS “US Top Court Rules Against Wyeth in Liability Case”

Quiz 3

Paper 2 assigned week 7

Sections 4&5: Business and the Environment and (Non) Compliance With Ethical Standards

Desjardins “Corporate Environmental Responsibility”
Norton “The natural environment as a salient stakeholder...”
Newton “Case 1: New England Fisheries”
Lafraniere “Europe takes Africa’s Fish, Boatloads of Migrants Follow”
Green “When is ‘Everyone is Doing It’ a moral justification?”
Moberg “When Good People do Bad Things at Work”
Milgram “The Dilemma of Obedience”
“Method of Inquiry”
Shaw “The A7D Affair”

Quiz 4

Paper 2 Due Week 9